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Contents

In	troducti	page vii	
1	Affine	e root systems	1
	1.1	Notation and terminology	1
	1.2	Affine root systems	3
	1.3	Classification of affine root systems	6
	1.4	Duality	12
	1.5	Labels	14
2	The e	xtended affine Weyl group	17
	2.1	Definition and basic properties	17
	2.2	The length function on W	19
	2.3	The Bruhat order on W	22
	2.4	The elements $u(\lambda')$, $v(\lambda')$	23
	2.5	The group Ω	27
	2.6	Convexity	29
	2.7	The partial order on L'	31
	2.8	The functions $r_{k'}$, r'_k	34
3	The b	raid group	37
	3.1	Definition of the braid group	37
	3.2	The elements $Y^{\lambda'}$	39
	3.3	Another presentation of 33	42
	3.4	The double braid group	45
	3.5	Duality	47
	3.6	The case $R' = R$	49
	3.7	The case $R' \neq R$	52

vi Contents

4	The af	ffine Hecke algebra	55
	4.1	The Hecke algebra of W	55
	4.2	Lusztig's relation	57
	4.3	The basic representation of §	62
	4.4	The basic representation, continued	69
	4.5	The basic representation, continued	73
	4.6	The operators $Y^{\lambda'}$	77
	4.7	The double affine Hecke algebra	81
5	Orthogonal polynomials		85
	5.1	The scalar product	85
	5.2	The polynomials E_{λ}	97
	5.3	The symmetric polynomials P_{λ}	102
	5.4	The \mathfrak{H} -modules A_{λ}	108
	5.5	Symmetrizers	112
	5.6	Intertwiners	117
	5.7	The polynomials $P_{\lambda}^{(\varepsilon)}$	120
	5.8	Norms	125
	5.9	Shift operators	137
	5.10	Creation operators	141
6	The rank 1 case		148
	6.1	Braid group and Hecke algebra (type A_1)	148
	6.2	The polynomials E_m	150
	6.3	The symmetric polynomials P_m	155
	6.4	Braid group and Hecke algebra (type (C_1^{\vee}, C_1))	159
	6.5	The symmetric polynomials P_m	160
	6.6	The polynomials E_m	166
Bi	bliograp	phy	170
In	Index of notation		
Inc	ndex		

Affine root systems

1.1 Notation and terminology

Let *E* be an affine space over a field *K*: that is to say, *E* is a set on which a *K*-vector space *V* acts faithfully and transitively. The elements of *V* are called *translations* of *E*, and the effect of a translation $v \in V$ on $x \in E$ is written x + v. If y = x + v we write v = y - x.

Let E' be another affine space over K, and let V' be its vector space of translations. A mapping $f: E \to E'$ is said to be *affine-linear* if there exists a K-linear mapping $Df: V \to V'$, called the *derivative* of f, such that

$$(1.1.1) f(x+v) = f(x) + (Df)(v).$$

for all $x \in E$ and $v \in V$. In particular, a function $f: E \to K$ is affine-linear if and only if there exists a linear form $Df: V \to K$ such that (1.1.1) holds.

If $f, g: E \to K$ are affine-linear and $\lambda, \mu \in K$, the function $h = \lambda f + \mu g: x \mapsto \lambda f(x) + \mu g(x)$ is affine-linear, with derivative $Dh = \lambda Df + \mu Dg$. Hence the set F of all affine-linear functions $f: E \to K$ is a K-vector space, and D is a K-linear mapping of F onto the dual V^* of the vector space V. The kernel of D is the 1-dimensional subspace F^0 of F consisting of the constant functions.

Let F^* be the dual of the vector space F. For each $x \in E$, the evaluation map $\varepsilon_x : f \mapsto f(x)$ belongs to F^* , and the mapping $x \mapsto \varepsilon_x$ embeds E in F^* as an affine hyperplane. Likewise, for each $v \in V$ let $\varepsilon_v \in F^*$ be the mapping $f \mapsto (Df)(v)$. If v = y - x, where $x, y \in E$, we have $\varepsilon_v = \varepsilon_y - \varepsilon_x$ by (1.1.1), and the mapping $v \mapsto \varepsilon_v$ embeds V in F^* as the hyperplane through the origin parallel to E.

From now on, K will be the field \mathbb{R} of real numbers, and V will be a real vector space of finite dimension n > 0, equipped with a positive definite symmetric

scalar product $\langle u, v \rangle$. We shall write

$$|v| = \langle v, v \rangle^{1/2}$$

for the length of a vector $v \in V$. Then E is a Euclidean space of dimension n, and is a metric space for the distance function d(x, y) = |x - y|.

We shall identify V with its dual space V^* by means of the scalar product $\langle u, v \rangle$. For any affine-linear function $f \colon E \to \mathbb{R}$, (1.1.1) now takes the form

$$(1.1.2) f(x+v) = f(x) + \langle Df, v \rangle$$

and Df is the gradient of f, in the usual sense of calculus.

We define a scalar product on the space F as follows:

$$(1.1.3) \langle f, g \rangle = \langle Df, Dg \rangle.$$

This scalar product is positive semidefinite, with radical the one-dimensional space F^0 of constant functions.

For each $v \neq 0$ in V let

$$v^{\vee} = 2v/|v|^2$$

and for each non-constant $f \in F$ let

$$f^{\vee} = 2f/|f|^2$$
.

Also let

$$H_f = f^{-1}(0)$$

which is an affine hyperplane in E. The reflection in this hyperplane is the isometry $s_f \colon E \to E$ given by the formula

$$(1.1.4) s_f(x) = x - f^{\vee}(x)Df = x - f(x)Df^{\vee}.$$

By transposition, s_f acts on F: $s_f(g) = g \circ s_f^{-1} = g \circ s_f$. Explicitly, we have

$$(1.1.5) s_f(g) = g - \langle f^{\vee}, g \rangle f = g - \langle f, g \rangle f^{\vee}$$

for $g \in F$.

For each $u \neq 0$ in V, let $s_u: V \rightarrow V$ denote the reflection in the hyperplane orthogonal to u, so that

$$(1.1.6) s_u(v) = v - \langle u, v \rangle u^{\vee}.$$

Then it is easily checked that

$$(1.1.7) Ds_f = s_{Df}$$

for any non constant $f \in F$.

Let $w: E \to E$ be an isometry. Then w is affine-linear (because it preserves parallelograms) and its derivative Dw is a linear isometry of V, i.e., we have $\langle (Dw)u, (Dw)v \rangle = \langle u, v \rangle$ for all $u, v \in V$. The mapping w acts by transposition on $F: (wf)(x) = f(w^{-1}x)$ for $x \in V$, and we have

(1.1.8)
$$D(wf) = (Dw)(Df).$$

For each $v \in V$ we shall denote by $t(v) : E \to E$ the translation by v, so that t(v)x = x + v. The translations are the isometries of E whose derivative is the identity mapping of V. On F, t(v) acts as follows:

$$(1.1.9) t(v) f = f - \langle Df, v \rangle c$$

where c is the constant function equal to 1. For if $x \in E$ we have

$$(t(v)f)(x) = f(x - v) = f(x) - \langle Df, v \rangle.$$

Let $w: E \to E$ be an isometry and let $v \in V$. Then

$$(1.1.10) wt(v)w^{-1} = t((Dw)v).$$

For if $x \in E$ we have

$$(wt(v)w^{-1})(x) = w(w^{-1}x + v) = x + (Dw)v.$$

1.2 Affine root systems

As in §1.1 let E be a real Euclidean space of dimension n > 0, and let V be its vector space of translations. We give E the usual topology, defined by the metric d(x, y) = |x - y|, so that E is locally compact. As before, let F denote the space (of dimension n + 1) of affine-linear functions on E.

An *affine root system* on E [M2] is a subset S of F satisfying the following axioms (AR1)–(AR4):

- (AR 1) S spans F, and the elements of S are non-constant functions.
- (AR 2) $s_a(b) \in S$ for all $a, b \in S$.
- (AR 3) $\langle a^{\vee}, b \rangle \in \mathbb{Z}$ for all $a, b \in S$.

The elements of S are called *affine roots*, or just *roots*. Let W_S be the group of isometries of E generated by the reflections s_a for all $a \in S$. This group W_S is the *Weyl group* of S. The fourth axiom is now

(AR 4) W_S (as a discrete group) acts properly on E.

In other words, if K_1 and K_2 are compact subsets of E, the set of $w \in W_S$ such that $wK_1 \cap K_2 \neq \emptyset$ is *finite*.

From (AR3) it follows, just as in the case of a finite root system, that if a and λa are proportional affine roots, then λ is one of the numbers $\pm \frac{1}{2}$, ± 1 , ± 2 . If $a \in S$ and $\frac{1}{2}a \notin S$, the root a is said to be *indivisible*. If each $a \in S$ is indivisible, i.e., if the only roots proportional to $a \in S$ are $\pm a$, the root system S is said to be *reduced*.

If S is an affine root system on E, then

$$S^{\vee} = \{a^{\vee} : a \in S\}$$

is also an affine root system on E, called the *dual* of S. Clearly S and S^{\vee} have the same Weyl group, and $S^{\vee\vee} = S$.

The *rank* of *S* is defined to be the dimension *n* of *E* (or *V*). If *S'* is another affine root system on a Euclidean space E', an *isomorphism* of *S* onto S' is a bijection of *S* onto S' that is induced by an isometry of *E* onto E'. If S' is isomorphic to λS for some nonzero $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$, we say that *S* and *S'* are *similar*.

We shall assume throughout that S is *irreducible*, i.e. that there exists no partition of S into two non-empty subsets S_1 , S_2 such that $\langle a_1, a_2 \rangle = 0$ for all $a_1 \in S_1$ and $a_2 \in S_2$.

The following proposition ([M2], p. 98) provides examples of affine root systems:

(1.2.1) Let R be an irreducible finite root system spanning a real finite-dimensional vector space V, and let $\langle u, v \rangle$ be a positive-definite symmetric bilinear form on V, invariant under the Weyl group of R. For each $\alpha \in R$ and $r \in \mathbb{Z}$ let $a_{\alpha,r}$ denote the affine-linear function on V defined by

$$a_{\alpha,r}(x) = \langle \alpha, x \rangle + r.$$

Then the set S(R) of functions $a_{\alpha,r}$, where $\alpha \in R$ and r is any integer if $\frac{1}{2}\alpha \notin R$ (resp. any odd integer if $\frac{1}{2}\alpha \in R$) is a reduced irreducible affine root system on V.

Moreover, every reduced irreducible affine root system is similar to either S(R) or $S(R)^{\vee}$, where R is a finite (but not necessarily reduced) irreducible root system ([M2], §6).

Let S be an irreducible affine root system on a Euclidean space E. The set $\{H_a: a \in S\}$ of affine hyperplanes in E on which the affine roots vanish is locally finite ([M2], §4). Hence the set $E - \bigcup_{a \in S} H_a$ is open in E, and therefore so also are the connected components of this set, since E is locally connected. These components are called the *alcoves* of S, or of W_S , and it is a basic fact (loc. cit.) that the Weyl group W_S acts faithfully and transitively on the set of alcoves. Each alcove is an open rectilinear n-simplex, where n is the rank of S.

Choose an alcove C once and for all. Let x_i ($i \in I$) be the vertices of C, so that C is the set of all points $x = \sum \lambda_i x_i$ such that $\sum \lambda_i = 1$ and each λ_i is a positive real number. Let B = B(C) be the set of indivisible affine roots $a \in S$ such that (i) H_a is a wall of C, and (ii) a(x) > 0 for all $x \in C$. Then B consists of n + 1 roots, one for each wall of C, and B is a basis of the space E of affine-linear functions on E. The set E is called a *basis* of E.

The elements of B will be denoted by a_i ($i \in I$), the notation being chosen so that $a_i(x_j) = 0$ if $i \neq j$. Since x_i is in the closure of C, we have $a_i(x_i) > 0$. Moreover, $\langle a_i, a_i \rangle < 0$ whenever $i \neq j$.

The alcove C having been chosen, an affine root $a \in S$ is said to be *positive* (resp. *negative*) if a(x) > 0 (resp. a(x) < 0) for $x \in C$. Let S^+ (resp. S^-) denote the set of positive (resp. negative) affine roots; then $S = S^+ \cup S^-$ and $S^- = -S^+$. Moreover, each $a \in S^+$ is a linear combination of the a_i with nonnegative integer coefficients, just as in the finite case ([M2], §4).

Let $\alpha_i = Da_i$ ($i \in I$). The n+1 vectors $\alpha_i \in V$ are linearly dependent, since dim V = n. There is a unique linear relation of the form

$$\sum_{i \in I} m_i \alpha_i = 0$$

where the m_i are positive integers with no common factor, and at least one of the m_i is equal to 1. Hence the function

$$(1.2.2) c = \sum_{i \in I} m_i a_i$$

is constant on E (because its derivative is zero) and positive (because it is positive on C).

Let

$$\Sigma = \{Da : a \in S\}.$$

Then Σ is an irreducible (finite) root system in V. A vertex x_i of the alcove C is said to be *special* for S if (i) $m_i = 1$ and (ii) the vectors α_j ($j \in I$, $j \neq i$) form a basis of Σ . For each affine root system S there is at least one special vertex (see the tables in §1.3). We shall choose a special vertex once and for all, and denote it by x_0 (so that 0 is a distinguished element of the index set I). Thus $m_0 = 1$ in (1.2.2), and if we take x_0 as origin in E, thereby identifying E with V, the affine root a_i ($i \neq 0$) is identified with α_i .

The Cartan matrix and the Dynkin diagram of an irreducible affine root system S are defined exactly as in the finite case. The *Cartan matrix* of S is the matrix $N = (n_{ij})_{i,j \in I}$ where $n_{ij} = \langle a_i^{\vee}, a_j \rangle$. It has n+1 rows and columns, and its rank is n. Its diagonal entries are all equal to 2, and its off-diagonal entries are integers ≤ 0 . If $m = (m_i)_{i \in I}$ is the column vector formed by the coefficients in (1.2.2), we have Nm = 0.

The *Dynkin diagram* of *S* is the graph with vertex set *I*, in which each pair of distinct vertices i, j is joined by d_{ij} edges, where $d_{ij} = \max(|n_{ij}|, |n_{ji}|)$. We have $d_{ij} \leq 4$ in all cases. For each pair of vertices i, j such that $d_{ij} > 0$ and $|a_i| > |a_j|$, we insert an arrowhead (or inequality sign) pointing towards the vertex j corresponding to the shorter root.

If *S* is reduced, the Dynkin diagram of S^{\vee} is obtained from that of *S* by reversing all arrowheads. If S = S(R) as in (1.2.1), where *R* is irreducible and reduced, the Dynkin diagram of *S* is the 'completed Dynkin diagram' of R([B1], ch. 6).

If S is reduced, the Cartan matrix and the Dynkin diagram each determine S up to similarity. If S is not reduced, the Dynkin diagram still determines S, provided that the vertices $i \in I$ such that $2a_i \in S$ are marked (e.g. with an asterisk).

1.3 Classification of affine root systems

Let *S* be an irreducible affine root system. If *S* is reduced, then *S* is similar to either S(R) or $S(R)^{\vee}$ (1.2.1), where *R* is an irreducible root system. If *R* is of type *X*, where *X* is one of the symbols A_n , B_n , C_n , D_n , BC_n , E_6 , E_7 , E_8 , F_4 , G_2 , we say that S(R) (resp. $S(R)^{\vee}$) is of type *X* (resp. X^{\vee}).

If S is not reduced, it determines two reduced affine root systems

$$S_1 = \{a \in S : \frac{1}{2}a \notin S\}, \quad S_2 = \{a \in S : 2a \notin S\}$$

with the same affine Weyl group, and $S = S_1 \cup S_2$. We say that S is of type (X, Y) where X, Y are the types of S_1, S_2 respectively.

The reduced and non-reduced irreducible affine root systems are listed below ((1.3.1)-(1.3.18)). In this list, $\varepsilon_1, \varepsilon_2, \ldots$ is a sequence of orthonormal vectors in a real Hilbert space.

For each type we shall exhibit

- (a) an affine root system S of that type;
- (b) a basis of S;
- (c) the Dynkin diagram of S. Here the numbers attached to the vertices of the diagram are the coefficients m_i in (1.2.2).

We shall first list the reduced systems ((1.3.1)-(1.3.14)) and then the non-reduced systems ((1.3.15)-(1.3.18)).

(1.3.1) *Type*
$$A_n$$
 $(n \ge 1)$.

(a)
$$\pm (\varepsilon_i - \varepsilon_j) + r \ (1 \le i < j \le n+1; \ r \in \mathbb{Z}).$$

(b)
$$a_0 = -\varepsilon_1 + \varepsilon_{n+1} + 1$$
, $a_i = \varepsilon_i - \varepsilon_{i+1} (1 \le i \le n)$.

(c)
$$\frac{1}{1} \frac{1}{1} \cdots \frac{1}{1} \cdots \frac{1}{1}$$

$$(n = 1) \qquad (n \ge 2)$$

(1.3.2) *Type* B_n $(n \ge 3)$.

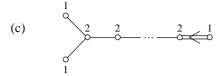
(a)
$$\pm \varepsilon_i + r \ (1 \le i \le n; \ r \in \mathbb{Z}); \ \pm \varepsilon_i \pm \varepsilon_j + r \ (1 \le i < j \le n; \ r \in \mathbb{Z}).$$

(b)
$$a_0 = -\varepsilon_1 - \varepsilon_2 + 1$$
, $a_i = \varepsilon_i - \varepsilon_{i+1} \ (1 \le i \le n-1)$, $a_n = \varepsilon_n$.

(1.3.3) *Type* B_n^{\vee} $(n \ge 3)$.

(a)
$$\pm 2\varepsilon_i + 2r$$
 $(1 \le i \le n; r \in \mathbb{Z}); \pm \varepsilon_i \pm \varepsilon_j + r$ $(1 \le i < j \le n; r \in \mathbb{Z}).$

(b)
$$a_0 = -\varepsilon_1 - \varepsilon_2 + 1$$
, $a_i = \varepsilon_i - \varepsilon_{i+1} \ (1 \le i \le n-1)$, $a_n = 2\varepsilon_n$.



(1.3.4) *Type* C_n $(n \ge 2)$.

- (a) $\pm 2\varepsilon_i + r$ $(1 \le i \le n; r \in \mathbb{Z}); \quad \pm \varepsilon_i \pm \varepsilon_i + r$ $(1 \le i < j \le n; r \in \mathbb{Z}).$
- (b) $a_0 = -2\varepsilon_1 + 1$, $a_i = \varepsilon_i \varepsilon_{i+1} \ (1 \le i \le n-1)$, $a_n = 2\varepsilon_n$.

(1.3.5) *Type* C_n^{\vee} $(n \ge 2)$.

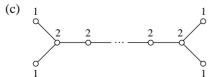
- (a) $\pm \varepsilon_i + \frac{1}{2}r$ $(1 \le i \le n; r \in \mathbb{Z}); \pm \varepsilon_i \pm \varepsilon_j + r$ $(1 \le i < j \le n; r \in \mathbb{Z}).$
- (b) $a_0 = -\varepsilon_1 + \frac{1}{2}$, $a_i = \varepsilon_i \varepsilon_{i+1} \ (1 \le i \le n-1)$, $a_n = \varepsilon_n$.

(1.3.6) *Type* BC_n $(n \ge 1)$.

- (a) $\pm \varepsilon_i + r \ (1 \le i \le n; \ r \in \mathbb{Z}); \ \pm 2\varepsilon_i + 2r + 1 \ (1 \le i \le n; \ r \in \mathbb{Z});$ $\pm \varepsilon_i \pm \varepsilon_j + r \ (1 \le i < j \le n; \ r \in \mathbb{Z}).$
- (b) $a_0 = -2\varepsilon_1 + 1$, $a_i = \varepsilon_i \varepsilon_{i+1} \ (1 \le i \le n-1)$, $a_n = \varepsilon_n$.

(1.3.7) *Type* D_n $(n \ge 4)$.

- (a) $\pm \varepsilon_i \pm \varepsilon_j + r \ (1 \le i < j \le n; \ r \in \mathbb{Z})$
- (b) $a_0 = -\varepsilon_1 \varepsilon_2 + 1$, $a_i = \varepsilon_i \varepsilon_{i+1} \ (1 \le i \le n-1)$, $a_n = \varepsilon_{n-1} + \varepsilon_n$.



These are the "classical" reduced affine root systems. The next seven types ((1.3.8)-(1.3.14)) are the "exceptional" reduced affine root systems. In (1.3.8)-(1.3.10) let

$$\omega_i = \varepsilon_i - \frac{1}{9}(\varepsilon_1 + \dots + \varepsilon_9)$$
 $(1 \le i \le 9)$

(1.3.8) *Type* E_6 .

(a)
$$\pm(\omega_{i} - \omega_{j}) + r \ (1 \le i < j \le 6; \ r \in \mathbb{Z});$$

 $\pm(\omega_{i} + \omega_{j} + \omega_{k}) + r \ (1 \le i < j < k \le 6; \ r \in \mathbb{Z});$
 $\pm(\omega_{i} + \omega_{2} + \cdots + \omega_{6}) + r \ (r \in \mathbb{Z}).$

(b) $a_0 = -(\omega_1 + \dots + \omega_6) + 1$, $a_i = \omega_i - \omega_{i+1} \ (1 \le i \le 5)$, $a_6 = \omega_4 + \omega_5 + \omega_6$.



(1.3.9) *Type* E_7 .

(a)
$$\pm(\omega_i - \omega_j) + r \ (1 \le i < j \le 7; \ r \in \mathbb{Z});$$

 $\pm(\omega_i + \omega_j + \omega_k) + r \ (1 \le i < j < k \le 7; \ r \in \mathbb{Z});$
 $\pm(\omega_1 + \cdots + \hat{\omega}_i + \cdots + \omega_7) + r \ (1 < i < 7; \ r \in \mathbb{Z}).$

(b)
$$a_0 = -(\omega_1 + \dots + \omega_6) + 1$$
, $a_i = \omega_i - \omega_{i+1} \ (1 \le i \le 6)$, $a_7 = \omega_5 + \omega_6 + \omega_7$.

(1.3.10) Type E_8 .

(a)
$$\pm(\omega_i - \omega_j) + r \ (1 \le i < j \le 9; \ r \in \mathbb{Z});$$

 $\pm(\omega_i + \omega_i + \omega_k) + r \ (1 \le i < j < k \le 9; \ r \in \mathbb{Z}).$

(b)
$$a_0 = \omega_1 - \omega_2 + 1$$
, $a_i = \omega_{i+1} - \omega_{i+2}$ $(1 \le i \le 7)$, $a_8 = \omega_7 + \omega_8 + \omega_9$.

(1.3.11) *Type F*₄.

(a)
$$\pm \varepsilon_i + r \ (1 \le i \le 4; \ r \in \mathbb{Z}); \ \pm \varepsilon_i \pm \varepsilon_j + r \ (1 \le i < j \le 4; \ r \in \mathbb{Z}); \ \frac{1}{2} (\pm \varepsilon_1 \pm \varepsilon_2 \pm \varepsilon_3 \pm \varepsilon_4) + r \ (r \in \mathbb{Z}).$$

- (b) $a_0 = -\varepsilon_1 \varepsilon_2 + 1$, $a_1 = \varepsilon_2 \varepsilon_3$, $a_2 = \varepsilon_3 \varepsilon_4$, $a_3 = \varepsilon_4$, $a_4 = \frac{1}{2}(\varepsilon_1 \varepsilon_2 \varepsilon_3 \varepsilon_4)$.

(1.3.12) *Type* F_4^{\vee} .

- (a) $\pm 2\varepsilon_i + 2r$ $(1 \le i \le 4; r \in \mathbb{Z}); \pm \varepsilon_i \pm \varepsilon_j + r$ $(1 \le i < j \le 4; r \in \mathbb{Z}); \pm \varepsilon_1 \pm \varepsilon_2 \pm \varepsilon_3 \pm \varepsilon_4 + 2r$ $(r \in \mathbb{Z}).$
- (b) $a_0 = -\varepsilon_1 \varepsilon_2 + 1$, $a_1 = \varepsilon_2 \varepsilon_3$, $a_2 = \varepsilon_3 \varepsilon_4$, $a_3 = 2\varepsilon_4$, $a_4 = \varepsilon_1 \varepsilon_2 \varepsilon_3 \varepsilon_4$.

(1.3.13) Type G_2 .

(a)
$$\pm (\varepsilon_i - \frac{1}{3}(\varepsilon_1 + \varepsilon_2 + \varepsilon_3)) + r \ (1 \le i \le 3; \ r \in \mathbb{Z});$$

 $\pm (\varepsilon_i - \varepsilon_j) + r \ (1 \le i < j \le 3; \ r \in \mathbb{Z}).$

(b)
$$a_0 = \varepsilon_1 - \varepsilon_2 + 1$$
, $a_1 = \varepsilon_2 - \varepsilon_3$, $a_2 = \varepsilon_3 - \frac{1}{3}(\varepsilon_1 + \varepsilon_2 + \varepsilon_3)$.

(1.3.14) *Type* G_2^{\vee} .

(a)
$$\pm (3\varepsilon_i - (\varepsilon_1 + \varepsilon_2 + \varepsilon_3)) + 3r \ (1 \le i \le 3; \ r \in \mathbb{Z});$$

 $\pm (\varepsilon_i - \varepsilon_j) + r \ (1 \le i < j \le 3; \ r \in \mathbb{Z}).$

(b)
$$a_0 = \varepsilon_1 - \varepsilon_2 + 1$$
, $a_1 = \varepsilon_2 - \varepsilon_3$, $a_2 = 3\varepsilon_3 - (\varepsilon_1 + \varepsilon_2 + \varepsilon_3)$.

We come now to the non-reduced affine root systems. In the Dynkin diagrams below, an asterisk placed over a vertex indicates that if a_i is the affine root corresponding to that vertex in a basis of S, then $2a_i \in S$.

(1.3.15) *Type*
$$(BC_n, C_n)$$
 $(n \ge 1)$.

(a)
$$\pm \varepsilon_i + r$$
, $\pm 2\varepsilon_i + r$ $(1 \le i \le n, r \in \mathbb{Z})$; $\pm \varepsilon_i \pm \varepsilon_j + r$ $(1 \le i < j \le n; r \in \mathbb{Z})$.

(b)
$$a_0 = -2\varepsilon_1 + 1$$
, $a_i = \varepsilon_i - \varepsilon_{i+1} \ (1 \le i \le n-1)$, $a_n = \varepsilon_n$.

(1.3.16) *Type* (C_n^{\vee}, BC_n) $(n \ge 1)$.

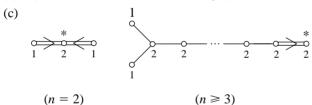
(a)
$$\pm \varepsilon_i + \frac{1}{2}r$$
, $\pm 2\varepsilon_i + 2r$ $(1 \le i \le n; r \in \mathbb{Z});$
 $\pm \varepsilon_i \pm \varepsilon_j + r$ $(1 \le i < j \le n; r \in \mathbb{Z}).$

(b)
$$a_0 = -\varepsilon_1 + \frac{1}{2}$$
, $a_i = \varepsilon_i - \varepsilon_{i+1}$, $a_n = \varepsilon_n$.

(1.3.17) Type $(C_2, C_2^{\vee}), (B_n, B_n^{\vee}) (n \geq 3)$.

(a)
$$\pm \varepsilon_i + r$$
, $\pm 2\varepsilon_i + 2r$ $(1 \le i \le n; r \in \mathbb{Z});$
 $\pm \varepsilon_i \pm \varepsilon_i + r$ $(1 \le i < j \le n; r \in \mathbb{Z}).$

(b)
$$a_0 = -\varepsilon_1 - \varepsilon_2 + 1$$
, $a_i = \varepsilon_i - \varepsilon_{i+1} \ (1 \le i \le n-1)$; $a_n = \varepsilon_n$.



(1.3.18) *Type* (C_n^{\vee}, C_n) $(n \ge 1)$.

(a)
$$\pm \varepsilon_i + \frac{1}{2}r$$
, $\pm 2\varepsilon_i + r$ $(1 \le i \le n; r \in \mathbb{Z});$
 $\pm \varepsilon_i \pm \varepsilon_j + r$ $(1 \le i < j \le n; r \in \mathbb{Z}).$

(b)
$$a_0 = -\varepsilon_1 + \frac{1}{2}$$
, $a_i = \varepsilon_i - \varepsilon_{i+1}$ $(1 \le i \le n-1)$, $a_n = \varepsilon_n$.

For each irreducible affine root system S, let o(S) denote the number of W_S -orbits in S. If S is reduced, the list above shows that $o(S) \le 3$, and that o(S) = 3

only when *S* is of type C_n , C_n^{\vee} or $BC_n (n \ge 2)$. If *S* is not reduced, the maximum value of o(S) is 5, and is attained only when *S* is of type (C_n^{\vee}, C_n) $(n \ge 2)$. The five orbits are O_1, \ldots, O_5 where, in the notation of (1.3.18) above,

$$\begin{aligned} O_1 &= \{ \pm \varepsilon_i + r : 1 \leq i \leq n, r \in \mathbb{Z} \}, & O_2 &= 2O_1, & O_3 &= O_1 + \frac{1}{2}, \\ O_4 &= 2O_3 = O_2 + 1, & O_5 &= \{ \pm \varepsilon_i \pm \varepsilon_j + r : 1 \leq i < j \leq n, \ r \in \mathbb{Z} \}. \end{aligned}$$

Finally, the list above shows that all the non-reduced irreducible affine root systems of rank n are subsystems of (1.3.18), obtained by deleting one or more of the W_S -orbits; and so are the "classical" root systems (1.3.2)–(1.3.7).

1.4 Duality

In later chapters, in order to formulate conveniently certain dualities, we shall need to consider not one but a pair (S, S') of irreducible affine root systems, together with a pair (R, R') of finite root systems and a pair (L, L') of lattices in V.

Let R be a reduced finite irreducible root system in V, and let P (resp. P^\vee) denote the weight lattice of R (resp. R^\vee), and Q (resp. Q^\vee) the root lattice of R (resp. R^\vee). Fix a basis (α_i) $_{i\in I_0}$ of R, and let φ be the highest root of R relative to this basis. In (1.4.1) and (1.4.2) below we shall assume that the scalar product on V is normalized so that $|\varphi|^2 = 2$ and therefore $\varphi^\vee = \varphi$. (This conflicts with standard usage, as in \S 1.3, only when R is of type C_n (1.3.4).)

The pairs (S, S'), (R, R'), (L, L') to be considered are the following:

$$(1.4.1) \quad S = S(R), \quad S' = S(R^{\vee}); \quad R' = R^{\vee}; \quad L = P, \quad L' = P^{\vee}.$$

Then *S* (resp. *S'*) has a basis $(a_i)_{i \in I}$ (resp. $(a'_i)_{i \in I}$) where $a_i = \alpha_i$ $(i \neq 0)$, $a_0 = -\varphi + c$; $a'_i = \alpha_i^{\vee}$ $(i \neq 0)$, $a'_0 = -\psi^{\vee} + c$, where ψ is the highest *short* root of *R*.

$$(1.4.2) S = S' = S(R)^{\vee}; R' = R; L = L' = P^{\vee}.$$

Then S = S' has a basis $(a_i)_{i \in I} = (a_i')_{i \in I}$, where $a_i = a_i' = \alpha_i^{\vee}$ if $i \neq 0$, and $a_0 = a_0' = -\varphi + c$.

(1.4.3) S = S' is of type (C_n^{\vee}, C_n) ; R = R' is of type C_n ; $L = L' = Q^{\vee}$. We shall assume that S is as given in (1.3.18), so that $a_i = \alpha_i = \varepsilon_i - \varepsilon_{i+1}$ ($1 \le i \le n-1$) and $\alpha_n = 2a_n = 2\varepsilon_n$, and $L = \mathbb{Z}^n$.

For each $\alpha \in R$, let $\alpha'(=\alpha \text{ or } \alpha^{\vee})$ be the corresponding element of R'. Then $<\lambda'$, $\alpha>$ and $<\lambda$, $\alpha'>$ are integers, for all $\lambda \in L$, $\lambda' \in L'$ and $\alpha \in R$.

In each case let

$$(1.4.4) \qquad \qquad \Omega' = L'/Q^{\vee},$$

a finite abelian group. Also let

$$\langle L, L' \rangle = \{\langle \lambda, \lambda' \rangle : \lambda \in L, \lambda' \in L' \}.$$

Then we have

$$(1.4.5) < L, L' > = e^{-1} \mathbb{Z}$$

where e is the exponent of Ω' , except in case (1.4.2) when R is of type B_n or C_{2n} , in which case e = 1.

Anticipating Chapter 2, let W = W(R, L') be the group of displacements of V generated by the Weyl group W_0 of R and the translations $t(\lambda')$, $\lambda' \in L'$, so that W is the semidirect product of W_0 and t(L'):

$$(1.4.6) W = W(R, L') = W_0 \ltimes t(L').$$

Dually, let

$$(1.4.6') W' = W(R', L) = W_0 \ltimes t(L).$$

By transposition, both W and W' act on F.

(1.4.7) W permutes S and W' permutes S'.

This follows from the fact, remarked above, that $<\lambda', \alpha>$ and $<\lambda, \alpha'>$ are integers, for all $\lambda \in L$, $\lambda' \in L'$ and $\alpha \in R$.

Now let

$$(1.4.8) \qquad \qquad \Lambda = L \oplus \mathbb{Z}c_0$$

where $c_0 = e^{-1}c$. We shall regard elements of Λ as functions on V: if $f \in \Lambda$, say $f = \lambda + rc_0$ where $\lambda \in L$ and $r \in \mathbb{Z}$, then

$$f(x) = \langle \lambda, x \rangle + e^{-1}r$$

for $x \in V$. Then Λ is a lattice in F.

(1.4.9) Λ is stable under the action of W.

Proof Let $w \in W$, say $w = vt(\lambda')$ where $v \in W_0$ and $\lambda' \in L'$. If $f = \lambda + rc_0 \in \Lambda$ and $x \in V$, we have

$$wf(x) = f(w^{-1}x) = f(v^{-1}x - \lambda')$$

= $<\lambda, v^{-1}x - \lambda' > + e^{-1}r$
= $+ e^{-1}r - <\lambda, \lambda' >$

so that

$$wf = v\lambda + (r - e < \lambda, \lambda' >)c_0$$

is in Λ , since $e < \lambda$, $\lambda' > \in \mathbb{Z}$ by (1.4.5).

1.5 Labels

Let *S* be an irreducible affine root system as in §1.4 and let W = W(R, L'). A W-labelling k of *S* is a mapping $k : S \to \mathbb{R}$ such that k(a) = k(b) if a, b are in the same W-orbit in S.

If S = S(R) where R is simply-laced (types A, D, E), all the labels k(a) are equal. If S = S(R) or $S(R)^{\vee}$ where $R \neq R^{\vee}$, there are at most two labels, one for short roots and one for long roots. Finally, if S is of type (C_n^{\vee}, C_n) as in (1.4.3), there are five W-orbits O_1, \ldots, O_5 in S, as observed in §1.3, and correspondingly five labels k_1, \ldots, k_5 , where $k_i = k(a)$ for $a \in O_i$.

Given a labelling k of S as above, we define a *dual labelling* k' of S', as follows:

- (a) if S = S(R), $S' = S(R^{\vee})$ (1.4.1) and $a' = \alpha^{\vee} + rc \in S'$, then $k'(a') = k(\alpha + rc)$.
- (b) If $S = S' = S(R)^{\vee}$ (1.4.2), then k' = k.
- (c) If S = S' is of type (C_n^{\vee}, C_n) (1.4.3), the dual labels k_i' ($1 \le i \le 5$) are defined by

(1.5.1)
$$k'_{1} = \frac{1}{2}(k_{1} + k_{2} + k_{3} + k_{4}),$$

$$k'_{2} = \frac{1}{2}(k_{1} + k_{2} - k_{3} - k_{4}),$$

$$k'_{3} = \frac{1}{2}(k_{1} - k_{2} + k_{3} - k_{4}),$$

$$k'_{4} = \frac{1}{2}(k_{1} - k_{2} - k_{3} + k_{4}),$$

$$k'_{5} = k_{5},$$

and $k'(a) = k'_i$ if $a \in O_i$.

1.5 Labels 15

In all cases let

$$\rho_{k'} = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{\alpha \in R^+} k'(\alpha^{\vee}) \alpha,$$

$$\rho'_{k} = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{\alpha \in R^+} k(\alpha'^{\vee}) \alpha'.$$

where R^+ is the set of positive roots of R determined by the basis (α_i) . Explicitly, when S = S(R) (1.4.1) we have

$$\rho_{k'} = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{\alpha \in R^+} k(\alpha) \alpha,$$
$$\rho'_k = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{\alpha \in R^+} k(\alpha) \alpha^{\vee};$$

when $S = S(R)^{\vee}$ (1.4.2) we have

$$\rho_{k'} = \rho_k' = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{\alpha \in R^+} k(\alpha^{\vee}) \alpha;$$

and when S is of type (C_n^{\vee}, C_n) (1.4.3), so that R is of type C_n ,

$$\rho_{k'} = \sum_{i=1}^{n} (k'_1 + (n-i)k_5)\varepsilon_i,$$

$$\rho'_k = \sum_{i=1}^{n} (k_1 + (n-i)k_5)\varepsilon_i.$$

For each $w \in W_0$, we have

(1.5.3)
$$w^{-1}\rho'_k = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{\alpha \in R^+} \sigma(w\alpha)k(\alpha'^{\vee})\alpha',$$
$$w^{-1}\rho_{k'} = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{\alpha \in R^+} \sigma(w\alpha)k'(\alpha^{\vee})\alpha,$$

where $\sigma(w\alpha)=+1$ or -1 according as $w\alpha\in R^+$ or R^- . In particular, if $i\in I$, $i\neq 0$ we have

$$s_{i}\rho_{k}' = \rho_{k}' - k(\alpha_{i}^{\prime})\alpha_{i}',$$

$$s_{i}\rho_{k'} = \rho_{k'} - k'(\alpha_{i}^{\vee})\alpha_{i}.$$
(1.5.4)

(1.5.5) If the labels $k(\alpha_i^{\vee})$, $k'(\alpha_i^{\vee})$ are all nonzero, then ρ_k' and $\rho_{k'}$ are fixed only by the identity element of W_0 .

Notes and references

Affine root systems were introduced in [M2], which contains an account of their basic properties and their classification. The list of Dynkin diagrams in §1.3 will also be found in the article of Bruhat and Tits [B3] (except that both [M2] and [B3] omit the diagram (1.3.17) when n=2). The reduced affine root systems (1.3.1)–(1.3.14) are in one-one correspondence with the irreducible affine (or Euclidean) Kac-Moody Lie algebras, and correspondingly their diagrams appear in Moody's paper [M9] and Kac's book [K1].